from the group consisting of betaine, erythritol, inositol, sucrose, mannitol, glycerol, amino acids and mixtures thereof by using chromatographic separation comprising at least one step, where a weak acid cation exchange resin is used for the chromatographic separation.

8. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the chromatographic separation comprises at least one column or a part of a column, which contains a weak acid cation exchange resin.

9. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the chromatographic separation comprises at least one column or a part of a column, which contains a strong acid cation exchange resin.

10. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the weak acid cation exchange resin is an acrylic resin.

11. (Amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the acrylic resin is derived from the group consisting of methyl acrylate, ethyl acrylate, butyl acrylate, methyl methacrylate and acrylonitrile or acrylic acids or mixtures thereof.

12. (Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein the cation of said weak cation exchange resin is in the form selected from the group consisting of Na+, K+, H+, Mg2+ and Ca2+.

13. (Amended) The method of claim 12 wherein the cation of said weak cation exchange resin is in Na+ and/or K+ form.

17. (Amended) The method of claim 1 comprising feeding the process solution to a first chromatographic column containing a weak acid cation exchange resin and then feeding a fraction from the first chromatographic column to a

second chromatographic column containing a strong acid cation exchange resin.

18. (Amended) The method of claim 1 comprising feeding the process solution to a first chromatographic column containing a strong acid cation exchange resin and then feeding a fraction from the first chromatographic column to a second chromatographic column containing a weak acid cation exchange resin.

19. (Amended) The method of claim 18 comprising feeding a fraction from the second chromatographic column to a third chromatographic column containing weak acid cation exchange resin and feeding a fraction from the third chromatographic column to a fourth chromatographic column containing weak acid cation exchange resin.

20. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein a concentration or filtration unit is arranged between chromatographic columns.

21. (Amended) The method of claim 17 wherein prior to feeding the fraction to a further chromatographic column said fraction is concentrated by evaporation.

22. (Amended) The method of claim 18 wherein, prior to feeding the fraction to a further chromatographic column said fraction is concentrated by evaporation.

23. (Amended) The method of claim 19 wherein, prior to feeding the fraction to a further chromatographic column said fraction is concentrated by evaporation.

24. (Amended) The method of claim 20 wherein, prior to feeding the fraction from one chromatographic column to another, said fraction is concentrated by evaporation.

25. (Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising one or more of the steps of crystallization, ion exchange or precipitation.

28. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the particle size of the weak acid cation exchange resin is 10μm to 2000μm.

29. (Amended) The method of claim 28 wherein the particle size of the weak acid cation exchange resin is 100μm to 400μm.

30. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein a feed solution has a pH of from 6 to 11.

31. (Amended) The method of claim 30 wherein a feed solution has a pH of from 9 to 11.

36. (Amended) The method of claim 34 where weak acid cation exchange resin is used in at least one column.

37. (Amended) The method of claim 35 where weak acid cation exchange resin is used in at least one column.

38. (Amended) The method of claim 34 where strong acid cation exchange resin is used in at least one column.

39. (Amended) The method of claim 35 where strong acid cation exchange resin is used in at least one column.